

Message Text

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DRAFTED BY ACDA/MA/ : REINHORN:NJW
APPROVED BY ACDA/MA/ : TDAVIES
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PM:DCARLSON
S/S-O: JETHYDEN

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E.O. 11652: X-GDS-3

TAGS:PARM, US, UR, UK

SUBJECT:CTB NEGOTIATIONS
REF: STATE 93541

1. ACDA DIRECTOR WARNKE CALLED IN UK AMBASSADOR JAY MAY 23
TO RESPOND TO THE UK PROPOSAL ON DURATION (REFTEL) AND TO
OUTLINE THE NEW U.S. POSITION ON DURATION AND PERMITTED
EXPERIMENTS. HE DREW ON THE FOLLOWING POINTS:
(A) WE HAVE DECIDED TO PROPOSE A FIXED DURATION CTB TREATY
OF FIVE YEARS (I.E., THE TREATY WOULD TERMINATE AUTOMATICA-
LLY AT THE END OF THAT PERIOD). DURING THE FIFTH YEAR, A
REVIEW CONFERENCE WOULD BE HELD TO DETERMINE WHETHER TO
NEGOTIATE A REPLACEMENT TREATY.

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(B) IN FORWARDING THE TREATY TO THE SENATE FOR RATIFICATION,
THE PRESIDENT WOULD STATE HIS INTENTION TO RESUME TESTING AT
THEENDOF THE FIVE YEARS LIMITED ONLY TO WEAPONS SAFETY AND
RELIABILITYPURPOSES UNLESS A VIGOROUS SAFEGUARDS PROGRAM
AND STUDIES IN THE INTERIM INDICATE THAT THIS IS NOT NECES-
SARY. ANY FURTHER AGREEMENT ON TESTING LIMITATIONS AFTER
THE FIVE YEAR TREATY WOULD BE PRESENTED TO THE SENATE FOR

RATIFICATION.

(C) NUCLEAR WEAPONS EXPERIMENTS AT MINIMAL YIELD LEVELS (A FEW POUNDS OR SOMEWHAT HIGHER) WOULD BE PERMITTED UNDER THE CTB, IN ADDITION TO EXPERIMENTS IN LASER FUSION AND OTHER RELATED AREAS FOR CIVIL ENERGY PURPOSES.

(D) IN CONNECTION WITH THESE DECISIONS, THE PRESIDENT HAS ASKED THAT THE SOVIETS BE INFORMED OF HIS DESIRE TO EXPEDITE THE CTB NEGOTIATIONS. IN THIS REGARD, THE US DELEGATION WILL STATE THAT THE FIXED DURATION TREATY PROPOSAL, COUPLED WITH OUR EARLIER HISTORIC SHIFT ON ON-SITE INSPECTION, REPRESENTS MAJOR MOVEMENT ON THE PART OF THE US ON ISSUES OF SOVIET CONCERN AND THAT IN RETURN WE EXPECT SOVIET MOVEMENT IN THE DIRECTION OF OUR POSITIONS ON THE REMAINING CTB VERIFICATION ISSUES.

(E) WE HAVE GREATLY APPRECIATED THE OPPORTUNITY TO CONSULT WITH THE BRITISH GOVERNMENT ON THIS QUESTION. THOSE CONSULTATIONS HAVE BEEN OF MAJOR ASSISTANCE IN HELPING US TO REACH OUR OWN DECISION. AS YOU CAN SEE, THE APPROACH WE HAVE ADOPTED IS BASED ESSENTIALLY ON THE APPROACH PROPOSED BY THE U.K.

(F) IN VIEW OF THE EXTREME SENSITIVITY OF SEVERAL ELEMENTS OF OUR APPROACH, INCLUDING ELEMENTS THAT WILL BE INTERNAL USG POLICIES AND WILL NOT BE RAISED IN THE NEGOTIATIONS, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR TREATING THIS INFORMATION AS PARTICULARLY SENSITIVE AND CONFIDENTIAL.

2. JAY WELCOMED THE DECISION AND EXPRESSED THE HOPE THAT
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IT WOULD FACILITATE COMPLETION OF THE NEGOTIATIONS THIS SUMMER. HE RECOGNIZED THE SENSITIVITY OF THE INFORMATION, PARTICULARLY THE PORTIONS DEALING WITH INTERNAL USG POLICIES, AND SAID HE WOULD STRESS THIS IN HIS MESSAGE TO LONDON. VANCE

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